



WOODVILLE, JULY 2, 1850.

JOHN S. HOLT, Jr., Editor.

We are grateful to Senators Jefferson Davis and Lewis Cass, and to Hon. A. G. Brown, for public Documents.

Senator H. S. Foote has also favored us with a copy of his speeches in favor of Mr. Clay's Compromise, for which he has our thanks, though we do not at all agree with him in his views.

## SOUTHERN MEETING NEXT TUESDAY.

We last week made the announcement that on Tuesday next, the democrats, and others interested, would meet to discuss Mr. Foote, &c. The democrats were particularly mentioned, because Mr. Foote is a democrat—because he has done them the insult to say, that they would forgive him for an evil he proposes to do against the State and South, thus impeaching their patriotism—and because we are the organ of the democracy, and could more properly speak on their behalf.

It is folly, it is madness to be actuated by party feeling in this Southern controversy—a danger to which both are equally exposed is no subject for democrat and whig to be divided on, and to quarrel and draw party lines under such circumstances shows, that blinded by partisan feeling, each has lost sight of his patriotism. Has Mr. Foote done great wrong to the democratic party by his insinuations? The action he proposes to take, is the equal concern of the whig party. Has the Nashville Convention proposed a proceeding and declared the rights of the South? The South is neither all whig or democrat. Why then, in the face of destruction, be occupied by private piques and party dislikes? "The house divided against itself shall fall."

Let us, as good citizens, as Southern gentlemen, as men who are actuated by reason, drop our purely party feelings, and come together to counsel about the rights and interests of our beloved South.

It has been suggested to us that a special invitation be extended to our delegates to the late Convention, Judge C. P. Smith and Col. T. JONES STEWART, to attend the Southern Meeting at the Court House, next Tuesday.—The suggestion is a good one, and we have no hesitation in saying that the friends of the Meeting, generally, would be highly pleased to meet those gentlemen on that occasion.

We give many thanks to Mr. Woodworth for the latest Louisville papers he so kindly procured for us.

We see in the last Southern, a list of appointments made by U. S. Marshal Davis, for the purpose of taking the Census in this State. Amongst the different appointments we notice the following:

For the county of Wilkinson, John C. Sims, Adams, Jackson Warner.

Amite, Henry Flowers, Jr.

SECRETARY OF STATE.—Sufficient returns have been received at Jackson to warrant us in proclaiming the election of Gen. Jo. Bell, as Secretary of State. Gen. Bell's majority, however, in consequence of the plurality of Democratic candidates, will not be very large.

We publish to-day the letter of Judge Sharkey to the Jackson Southern, written since his return from Nashville. We commend it to the perusal of our readers.

We have received from the publishers, Leonard Scott & Co., of New York, the North British Review, and Blackwood. The latter is as usual filled with fine articles of a literary nature. The contents of the former are admirable. They are,

"Claverhouse," by Macaulay and Aytoun.  
"Edwin Chawick, C. B."  
"John Calvin,"  
"Hunt's Poetry of Science,"  
"F. K. Hunt's 'Fourth Estate,'"  
"Mahomet and the Koran,"  
"Southey's Life and Correspondence,"  
"The Jewish Theocracy,"  
"Lord Jeffrey."

An Abolitionist was hung a few days since in Arkansas. He had persuaded a negro woman to attempt the murder of her mistress.—There was no legal trial in the case.

We have to thank some one—we think it is Maj. Roach, the intelligent and excellent Cashier of the Vicksburg and Jackson Railroad, for a copy of "The Mississippi Railroad Guide," a neat little companion for those who may be traveling in our State.

A certain Captain of our acquaintance, who has recently been restored to health by a visit to Cooper's Well, on the journey to which, having to go on the Railroad, he was necessarily, for a while, under charge of Major Roach, says that "the Major is a great man, for every thing he has anything to do with goes ahead."

It is the opinion expressed by some that the Compromise proposed by the Committee of Thirteen is the best we can get, and they ask, Why should we oppose it?

In this opinion are contained ideas both false and humiliating. In the first place, it implies that we have to make a compromise, and in the second place, that, knowing this, we have by all this uproar, been haggling to get as good a one as possible. This may be the opinion of some men upon the present question, but it is not the idea of the subject upon which the South has been heretofore acting.

As to the obligation to make a compromise, we conceive that the reverse is the case,—that the Nashville Convention assembled to declare the rights of the South, and that the obligation to make a settlement of differences, is on the part of the North. We are borne out in this opinion by the fact that we have nothing to compromise but Honor—nothing to settle but our course of action on being asked and urged to compromise that. We ask, we have asked, for nothing but to be recognized in all rights growing out of the administration of the Federal Government, as the equals to the Northern States; to compromise this is to give up our all, and to gain nothing but ruin,—consequently, we do not have to make a compromise.

We declare, that there is no obligation resting upon us, moral or physical, to make a compromise, but on the contrary, we are led by all such causes to conclude that such a course would be highly inexpedient and disgraceful. We base this upon the following proposition, which we think will not be disputed. It is a matter to be governed by present circumstances, whether a mere isolated question of right in a particular object or subject shall be compromised, but it is a course strictly to be adhered to, never to compromise a principle, which, having its foundation in truth, leads, as circumstances may arise, to the most stupendous consequences. The distinction here is between a Fact and a Principle,—and if the questions now in agitation were mere abstract facts, (we are at a loss for a word to convey our meaning with greater certainty) and if the fate of our glorious country depended upon a settlement of them, we would say Compromise, by all means!

Let us suppose that the question of slavery in the Territories were, only one of, whether it would be better policy for us to have slavery there or not, and we were divided upon it to a degree to threaten disunion, every Patriot who loved the Union would say, Compromise.

But when the question is as it now stands, whether or not shall the Southern States admit that they are criminals, from their institution of slavery, and that they, being inferior from that and other causes, have not the same rights in the Territories acquired by the General Government, acting as their agent, as the Northern superior States—when this question arises, based as it is upon a principle, and one which is continuing, and leads to such overwhelmingly important effects, we say, stop!

We cannot admit your insulting and degrading desires, or any part of them, therefore we cannot compromise with you. It appears to be forgotten, in the multitude of words used on this subject, that this is the state of the case. We have never admitted that the North had any rights in this controversy, nor have they any principles involved, except those which have been established upon a wrong foundation, Covetousness,—and if they have no rights, how can we compromise? This then is the conclusion,—Since to compromise is to make mutual concessions of right, and the North have no rights to concede, we cannot compromise,—and to give away the principle of our equality with the North, we cannot do and exist.—What then becomes of the intimation that an obligation is resting upon us to make a compromise? It is unfounded in Theory, and equally so in fact, for we of the South, we Southerners at least, do claim to be an honorable people.

What then? Is there no outlet, no method of escaping the present dangers in which we seem placed? Shall the aggression of the North be consummated, and resisted by us, and in the destruction of one, or both? Assuredly so, as long as the principle of our equality is attempted to be destroyed. Let this principle be put aside, safely, and the whole question resolves itself into a mere fact, a mere matter which can be compromised—or rather, upon which a compromise may be adjusted without any sacrifice of honor. It is upon this state of the case that the line of 36° 30' has been pronounced by the Nashville Convention as the ultimatum of the South.

Here is the complete case. There is a quarrel about these Territories,—the North wishes all for her present and ulterior designs, allowing us a right to none. We say that we will not do this, but for peace' sake we will divide it, you take all north, we all south of this line. If they agree to this, all is right,—each State or each section composed of sovereign States, has its sovereign rights recognized over, not an undivided, but a regularly partitioned moiety. The rights of each are preserved, though not completely; the honor of the South, at least, is untarnished. And this adjustment is so proposed as to give to the South unalienable rights; it is not arranged like the Missouri Compromise, as a bone for contention—not arranged so that a future Congress can change it, but so fixed, that to disturb it, will be a cause for an open rupture as between foreign States.

Even making this division, we give up something which is the undoubted right we have in the whole, so long as we remain properly United States.

We call attention to the Card of Mr. J. H. McCutcheon, in another column. A faithful person on the spot, it must be known by all those who have had business with the Departments at Washington, is necessary for expediting and making affairs certain. We do not doubt but that Mr. McCutcheon is such an one, and that he is also a man of intelligence.

The subject of improving the Agriculture of the Southern or Cotton growing States, (increasing the production and rendering the lands more fertile,) has long engaged the earnest attention of the intelligent and reflecting. That it may be greatly improved by a proper effort on the part of those interested, we entertain no doubt, and we feel assured that no agent can be so efficient or powerful in the accomplishment of this great object as the Press—a journal which will afford to each and every planter the facilities for teaching and being taught by his brothers. Through the medium of such a journal, mind would be brought directly in contact with mind, and light and truth elicited. The planter of Georgia, would be made familiar with the systems and experiments, and the successes or failures of his brethren of the more remote States of Texas and Arkansas, and all the other cotton growing States. "Teach one another," should be the motto of every planter, and in no way can this be so successfully accomplished as through the medium of a journal devoted exclusively to the cause and improvement of Agriculture.

WASHINGTON CITY, January, 1850.

W. S. JONES,

Sir,—The subject of improving the Agriculture of the Southern or Cotton growing States, (increasing the production and rendering the lands more fertile,) has long engaged the earnest attention of the intelligent and reflecting. That it may be greatly improved by a proper effort on the part of those interested, we entertain no doubt, and we feel assured that no agent can be so efficient or powerful in the accomplishment of this great object as the Press—a journal which will afford to each and every planter the facilities for teaching and being taught by his brothers. Through the medium of such a journal, mind would be brought directly in contact with mind, and light and truth elicited. The planter of Georgia, would be made familiar with the systems and experiments, and the successes or failures of his brethren of the more remote States of Texas and Arkansas, and all the other cotton growing States. "Teach one another," should be the motto of every planter, and in no way can this be so successfully accomplished as through the medium of a journal devoted exclusively to the cause and improvement of Agriculture.

Entertaining these views, the undersigned SENATORS and REPRESENTATIVES in Congress from the Southern States, take great pleasure in commending to the favorable consideration and liberal patronage of the Planters of the cotton growing States the *Southern Cultivator* published by you.

In our opinion the South owes it to herself, her interests and institutions, to elevate the standard of Agriculture, and to sustain, liberally sustain, journals exclusively devoted to its advancement; that those engaged in it may reap the benefits of the discoveries in science and the current improvements in physics and mechanics. She should no longer be dependent upon other sections of the Union for Agricultural journals, none of which are so exclusively devoted to the promotion of her own Agriculture as yours.

Hoping that your efforts to establish a Periodical exclusively devoted to the progressive improvement of Southern Agriculture, and the permanent prosperity of the South, may be properly appreciated by those whose immediate interests it is designed to foster, we are, very respectfully, &c.

The terms are, one copy per year, \$1.00—Six copies for five dollars, and so in proportion. Our planters should certainly not neglect subscribing for this Southern work.

The Mississippi, in speaking of the report that Governor Quitman was at one time about to take command of the Cuba expedition, but was dissuaded by his friends, says,

"No one probably felt a deeper interest in the success of the Cubans, than did Gov. Quitman, believing that they really desired to achieve their liberties and live like freemen. But at the same time, and although the command of the late expedition was at one time offered to him, he from the first refused to enter upon this enterprise, and his reasons we understand, were that he had seen no action on the part of the people, and that until they acted, and in their struggle should appeal to him for aid, he could never think of entertaining the proposition. The story of his intention of assuming command of the present expedition and of friends persuading him from it, is all a sheer fabrication."

This is just what might have been expected from Genl. Quitman, a man who, though urged on by the most generous impulses to deeds of gallantry, yet has, in a degree sufficient to control such feelings, those more sober qualities of wisdom and prudence which are the result of his great experience.

COOPER'S WELL.—A writer in the Yazoo Whig gives a good account of this excellent watering place:

Col. Long, late of the Mansion House, Jackson, is the Major Domo of the establishment, and has under his charge a careful, obliging Steward, with some well drilled polite servants. While Messrs. Williams and Eppes are not backward in their attention to the guests, the latter gentleman makes the ladies and invalids his particular charge, and no one is permitted to repeat a wish or request to insure its fulfillment. The gayeties of the season have not fairly commenced yet, but there is a fine band of music here from New Orleans, which discourses most eloquent music, and will make the new ball room the most attractive feature of the place. The new saloon, for refreshments and daily lunch for ladies and gentlemen, is a new step in the progress of civilization at a Southern watering place, and Messrs. Holmes & Mason deserve to be well patronized for their enterprise.

We freely endorse the above. The whole establishment is kept in good style.

In addition to this, it must be borne in mind, that the Vicksburg, Jackson and Brandon Railroad (see its card in another column) offers superior facilities to invalids. This Road is now, we understand, in good repair, and it is a pleasure to travel on it. The company have, with kind solicitude, for the comfort of their passengers, had placed upon the Road an elegant car, expressly for invalid ladies. This, together with the line of coaches, renders the trip for the sick to Cooper's Well short (two hours and a half) and comfortable. The Well and Railroad have our best wishes, &c.

G. W. LANSLOWNE, who was convicted and sentenced to be hung, some time since, for the murder of Capt. J. C. Howard at St. Louis, has been pardoned by Governor King, of Missouri.

The Florida Indians positively assert that they will not leave their native soil to go West, and that it is no use to try to make them.

WASHINGTON, June 13th, 1850.

In the Senate, (the compromise bills being under discussion,) Mr. Clay rose, and in a few, but pointed remarks, charged the minority with causing the unnecessary delay in acting on the bills in the Senate, by moving amendments, the authors of which knew, at the time, that a majority of the Senate could not be obtained in favor of the same.

When Mr. Clay had concluded his remarks, Mr. Benton arose, and in very severe language charged Mr. Clay with being so changeable in his views respecting the admission of California, that it was impossible to know what was his policy upon the subject, and as there appeared to be so much difference of opinion, he had proposed amendments to ascertain on what points a majority of the Senate could agree, and for this reason he had proposed to insert in the section giving compensation to Texas, the sum of \$15,000,000, which could be adopted or some other sum substituted therefor, and for this he was charged with clogging legislation. At this stage of the debate it was evident that the remarks of these Senators were intended to be personal more than for elucidation of the subject under discussion—Mr. Clay telling Mr. Benton that before one individual could presume to lecture another, two things were necessary, first, *acknowledged ability* in the lecturer, and secondly, capacity in the persons lectured to comprehend it; both of which qualities were probably wanting in the present case.

He also charged Mr. Benton with changing his views respecting the admission of California and the admission of Texas,—at one time totally opposed to the admission of the former, which he said he thought he could make appear by reading a letter from a gentleman in Missouri, stating that he had often heard Mr. Benton declare California ought not to be admitted until she had served as a territory, and he should oppose her admission; he said, as to Texas, Mr. Benton contended that she could not be admitted by resolution of Congress, but only by treaty. If these things are as stated, said Mr. Clay, the honorable gentleman ought to have some charity for others who charge their views of public policy.

Mr. Benton here arose, and shaking his fist at Mr. Clay, hastily said, Mr. President, nobody gets off from me in this way, without replying to my remarks; he attacks me by reading from a letter written by some one, as an arraignment of me before the Senate. I had better be indicted at once, I can make an appropriate plea which will be to the jurisdiction of this body to try me for the publication of this letter. I hold you (addressing himself to Mr. Clay,) both legally and morally responsible, and the letter I brand as a base calumination, and it shall go upon the records of the parliamentary history of this country as such. He was here called to order, by several Senators and the Vice President, but, said he, "everybody is in order but me."

Mr. Clay.—I hurl the calumination back upon its true author."

Mr. Hale thought there ought to be some certain rule of the Senate, stating precisely how old a Senator must be when a letter could not be read against him: the other day a letter was read against a young Senator, and nothing was said! This produced a laugh from all sides of the Senate, which Mr. Hale is at all times capable of; he is indeed a man of ability, and were it not that he is an insane abolitionist, he would be an ornament to the Senate.

In the House there was also great excitement, but this is no uncommon thing; it is not, therefore, necessary to mention.

It is rumored that Mr. Clay intends to retire from the Senate as soon as this agitating question can be settled. GRATTAN.

From the correspondence of the Charleston Mercury we take the following, which bears on its face a character of reasonableness, and shows a most alarming state of public mind, consequent upon the immoral aggressions of the North:

To the Editors of the Mercury:

GENTLEMEN: I read in your paper of Thursday morning a communication over the signature of "A Mississippian," transferred (I believe) from the National Intelligencer. The gist of it is: that the writer is satisfied that no lasting or permanent union with our Northern brethren, under the feelings which exist among them, and above all, the principles which are openly avowed, is any longer practicable, or, within the limits of human judgment, likely to be realized. I concur fully in this sentiment, not suddenly, but after great deliberation. I see nothing to promise us the integrity and perpetuity of our own polity and institutions but separation from the North. Will they agree to a peaceable one? If so, very well—but will they cease to let us alone and manage our own affairs? If not, treating them as entirely foreign to us, we should know how to protect ourselves from aggression, and could do so. Fanaticism and ultraism of every kind is just beginning to realize at the North its full power and influence, and the sooner we put ourselves in an entirely antagonistic position to it the better. It is certainly no despicable nucleus to begin with *mine really free States*, determined to maintain and preserve the cherished institutions of their choice and affections, no less than of a glorious inheritance transmitted by their ancestors. R.

COUNCIL ROOM,

June 29th, 1850.

At a meeting of the Board of Aldermen, Present: C. FARISH, Mayor, H. S. White, Wm. T. Bining, H. J. Butterworth, Aldermen.

On motion of H. S. White, Resolved, That the eight warrants, seventy-five dollars each, in favor of A. M. Felts, (making \$600,) be cancelled, and a warrant be issued in favor of Wm. H. Dillingham (the present owner) for \$653 25, including interest, which is allowed.

On motion of Wm. T. Bining, Resolved, That warrants be issued to the following persons, and amounts, to-wit: Arthur Daniel, Clerk of Election, \$ 2 00 W. H. Rowley, for lumber, 18 60 B. Bryant, for hauling lumber, 4 00 G. B. Newell, Clerk of Election, 2 00

On motion of H. J. Butterworth, Resolved, That the Treasurer's report for the two quarters, from the 1st January, 1850, to 1st July, 1850, be received and ordered for publication, which is hereto annexed.

On motion of William T. Bining, Resolved, That warrants be issued in favor of the several officers of the Corporation for the two quarters ending on the 30th inst.—Also the deduction of over assessment on H. M. Farish's property of \$8, as represented in his petition, be allowed.

On motion, the proceedings of this meeting be adopted.

On motion, the Board adjourned. C. FARISH, Mayor. H. J. BUTTERWORTH, Clerk.

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

Corporation of Woodville, in account with H. S. WHITE, Treasurer, from January 1st to June 30th, two quarters, inclusive.

| 1850.                                    | DR.      |
|--|----------|
| To amt pd warrant in fav. L. F. Gardner, | \$37 50  |
| " " " " S. S. Fairfield,                 | 1 72     |
| " " " " boy Jeff for School Room servs,  | 75       |
| " " " " warrant in fav. L. F. Gardner,   | 87 50    |
| " " " " H. E. Sale,                      | 27 65    |
| " " " " C. Pascoe,                       | 26 50    |
| " " " " " " " " " " " "                  | 11 00    |
| " " " " H. J. Butterworth,               | 15 00    |
| " " " " " " " " " " " "                  | 15 00    |
| " " " " A. M. Felts,                     | 79 50    |
| " " " " " " " " " " " "                  | 79 50    |
| " " " " " " " " " " " "                  | 79 50    |
| " " " " acct. Wolf & Burgower,           | 2 08     |
| " " " " warrant in fav. A. Leffingwell,  | 3 00     |
| " " " " S. McMurtry,                     | 20 00    |
| " " " " " " " " " " " "                  | 2 00     |
| " " " " Street Work, P. H. Joor,         | 109 67   |
| " " " " warrant in fav. Wm. Blacker,     | 6 00     |
| " " " " Removing Nuisances,              | 5 00     |
| " " " " warrant in fav. C. Farish,       | 41 00    |
| " " " " M. Crist, tax collector's com's, | 99 84    |
| " " " " warrant in fav. M. Crist,        | 11 76    |
|  | \$761 67 |

1850. CR.

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| By bal. rec'd of A. Leffingwell, former Treasurer, | \$45 97  |
| By amt. rec'd of M. Crist, tax collector,          | 594 66   |
| " " " " Street tax,                                | 41 25    |
| " " " " Licenses,                                  | 15 00    |
| " " " " Fines,                                     | 5 00     |
| " " " " Sales of Negroes,                          | 18 79    |
| " " " " C. Farish, Mayor, for licenses,            | 16 00    |
| " " " " " " " " " " " "                            | 25 00    |
|  | \$761 67 |

All of which is respectfully submitted. H. S. WHITE, Treasurer. June 30th, 1850.

## An Ordinance

To amend "an ordinance in relation to Coffee or Tippling Houses, Shops, &c., in the Town of Woodville, passed February 18th, 1847," and also to amend "an ordinance prohibiting the sales of Merchandise, &c., in the Town of Woodville, on the Sabbath day, passed June 12th, 1847."

SEC. 1. Be it ordained by the Corporate Authorities of the town of Woodville, That from and after the passage and promulgation of this ordinance, amendatory of the ordinances above mentioned, it shall not be lawful for any Coffee House, Drinking House, Shop or Store, or the owners, or keepers, or clerks thereof, to keep open doors of the same on the Sabbath day, under the same penalties now existing by ordinances, to which this is an amendment.

SEC. 2. Be it further ordained, That this ordinance shall be in force in five days from and after its passage and publication. Passed June 29th, 1850.

C. FARISH, President. H. J. BUTTERWORTH, Sec'y.

## An Ordinance in Relation to Side Walks.

SEC. 1. Be it ordained by the Corporate Authorities of the town of Woodville, That from and after the time prescribed by this ordinance, it shall be the duty of owners of real estate in said town to make, or cause to be made, brick pavements in front of their several lots or dwellings, in the following parts of said town, to-wit: On Main street, from its intersection with the street termed East street to the public square—thence south, along that side of the square, known as "Boston Row," to "Rail Road St."—thence west, along that side, said street known as "Commercial Row," to an alley—thence north, along the west side, said square to Main street—thence west up Main street to the first street parallel with the public square, called West street—and the owners of real estate lying on and fronting the streets described shall commence laying pavements in all places where there are now no pavements, on the first day of September next, and for failing to commence and prosecute such work at such time, they shall be liable to a fine of \$1.00 per day, until the same be commenced and prosecuted, besides costs.

SEC. 2. Be it further ordained, That after such pavements are made and completed, it shall be the duty of owners of real estate situated as hereinbefore described, to keep them in repair under penalty of \$5 00 fine for every neglect to repair, in a reasonable time, after they shall have become in want of repairs. And it shall be the duty of owners of real estate where there are now pavements in the places mentioned, to repair them on the first September next, if they now or shall then require such repair, and to keep them in repair under the like penalties hereinbefore prescribed.

SEC. 3. Be it further ordained, That the

owners of real estate shall be compelled to repave the side walks on the east side of "Rail Road street," from its junction with the public square to the first street south of the same, and they shall be compelled to repair the side walks on Main street, from the street called "West street," to the Methodist Church, in such manner as the Street Committee, to be composed of two or more members of the Board of Aldermen, shall direct, commencing such time as said committee shall direct, under penalty of \$1 00 per day, besides costs, after notice and directions to repair, from said committee.

SEC. 4. Be it further ordained, That it shall be the duty of the owners of real estate in any parts of said town, other than those already mentioned, to keep in repair the side walks, by laying new bricks where the old bricks have worn away, or repairing, in the best manner practicable, where there never have been bricks laid, as the Street Committee shall, from time to time, direct, under penalty of \$5 00 fine, on failure to comply, after reasonable notice, to commence and prosecute such repairs.

SEC. 5. Be it further ordained, That all ordinances conflicting with this be and are hereby repealed, and that this ordinance be in force in five days from and after its passage and publication. Passed June 29, 1850. C. FARISH, Mayor.

H. J. BUTTERWORTH, Sec'y.

## JUDGE SHARKEY'S LETTER.

JACKSON, June 21st, 1850.

Editor of the Southern:—

DEAR SIR: An opinion expressed by me in a letter to the Hon. H. S. Foote approving the plan of compromise introduced into the Senate by the committee of thirteen, is being used as evidence that the South would be content with the terms of the compromise.—That opinion may receive an undue weight from the circumstance that I was chosen President of the Nashville convention, and the inference may be drawn that a majority of the delegates concurred in approving the compromise. The reverse, however, is true: the compromise had but few friends in the convention. And that no opinion of mine may be used to destroy in any degree the force of the action of the convention, a further explanation may be necessary. The letter was written at a time when it was believed by me as well as by others, not only here but elsewhere, that the convention movement would result in a total failure. Some of the States had declined to appoint delegates; it was believed that delegates appointed by others would not attend, and every where great opposition was manifested towards the measure. It seemed impossible to rally the South in vindication of her rights. The advice from Washington seemed to dispel any hope of a creditable convention, and a failure could have no other effect than to encourage the aggressions on the South. It was also believed that the compromise was the best that could possibly be obtained: so, indeed, I was distinctly informed. Under such circumstances I wrote the letter referred to, in reply to one which contained but a syllabus of the compromise, not having seen the detail of the measure. In expressing that opinion, I did not intend to admit that the South was entitled to nothing more. My opinions as the subject of our rights, are too well known, I trust, to be the subject of doubt. I had repeatedly declared that the South was entitled to an equal portion of the new territories. Since the letter was written the Nashville convention has met. Its enemies have been disappointed and its friends gratified. It is now seen that the South is alive to her interests and her rights. The convention was called for the purpose of enabling the Southern States to consult together, and to know each other's sentiments. After full deliberation, the convention, by an undivided opinion, resolved that the South was entitled at least to claim to have the Missouri compromise line extended to the Pacific; which would give her a part of California. This plan received my cordial support. It was the offer for which I had indicated a preference before I left for the convention. It recommends itself by its entire justice. In this the South is yielding more than ought to be demanded of her, but for the sake of harmony she may with propriety accede to it. I did not go into the convention with any other motive than to preserve our rights by acting in concert with others, and was fully prepared to act in a spirit of compromise and whatever opinions I may have entertained or expressed, I am now under obligations to carry out the views of the convention. Every man who went into it, was at least implicitly bound to abide by its action; and this obligation is the more cheerfully admitted by me as all its measures seemed to have a view a due regard for the Union and the preservation of the constitution. And I trust the whole South will unite, in a spirit of firm determination, to insist upon the line of compromise which we have recommended. This shall be my course, and I hope by pursuing it to accomplish the preservation of the Union unimpaired. It is proper to state that my opinions were freely communicated here as well as at Nashville, and I make this communication not to vindicate myself against the charge of inconsistency—I am wholly indifferent on that subject—but solely for the purpose of placing the action of the convention in its true light.

Your obt's servant,

W. L. SHARKEY.

"I have not loved lightly," as the man said when he married a widow weighing two hundred pounds.